

# **VoiceStream Wireless Corporation**

## ***Wireless LNP Forbearance Petition***

***WT Docket No. 01-184***

*No Longer a Valid Policy Rationale*

*Unresolved Pooling Issues*

*Unresolved Porting Issues*

*Avoid Harm To Consumers*

*Avoid Risks to Network and Service Quality*

*The FCC should repeal or forbear from WNP*

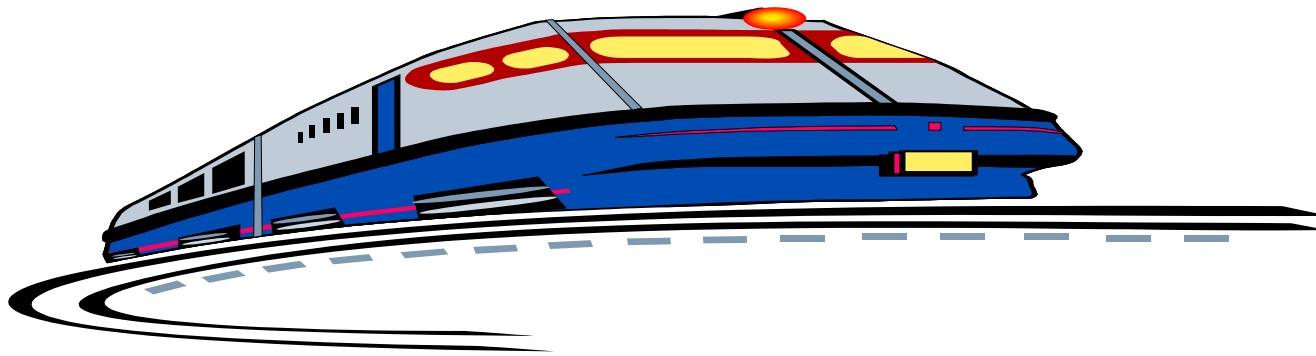
March 28, 2002

# No Longer a Valid Policy Rationale

- *Congress mandated LNP to remove a barrier to wireline competition*
- *This barrier does not exist for wireless; primary drivers of competition are price, coverage, and service quality*
- *The FCC ordered WNP in 1996 and granted forbearance in 1999; by all measures, wireless is even more competitive in 2002*
- *To the contrary, with LNP, wireline prices have increased by over 11% since 1999 and recently wireline competition has started to decline*

*“By any standard, this [wireless] industry is the most competitive market in the telecommunications industry.”*

*– Michael Powell*



## Unresolved Pooling Issues

- NPAC Release 3.0 was originally scheduled for nationwide deployment in 2001
- NPAC 3.0 was suspended in 2001 and replaced with Release 3.1 in 2002
- NPAC increased its throughput 3-4 times to accommodate additional wireline pooling and wireless pooling/porting volumes
- On 3/25/02, the LNPAWG conducted an emergency conference call to address LSMS and LSOA capacity problems
- Wireless must catch up and begin pooling in over 170 NPAs by 11/24/02
- Wireless Pooling will increase the load multiple times



## Unresolved Porting Issues

- The Slow Horse issue was identified in 1998 due to LSMS availability and partial failure problems and is still pending resolution today. As a result 1-1/2 to 2% of wireline ports experience delays.
- Delays in vendor software and hardware is limiting the time available for Inter-carrier testing
- The FCC has not adopted wireless porting and integration guidelines or addressed open policy issues
  - Wireless Number Portability Guidelines
  - Wireless Wireline Integration Guidelines

## Avoid Harm to Consumers

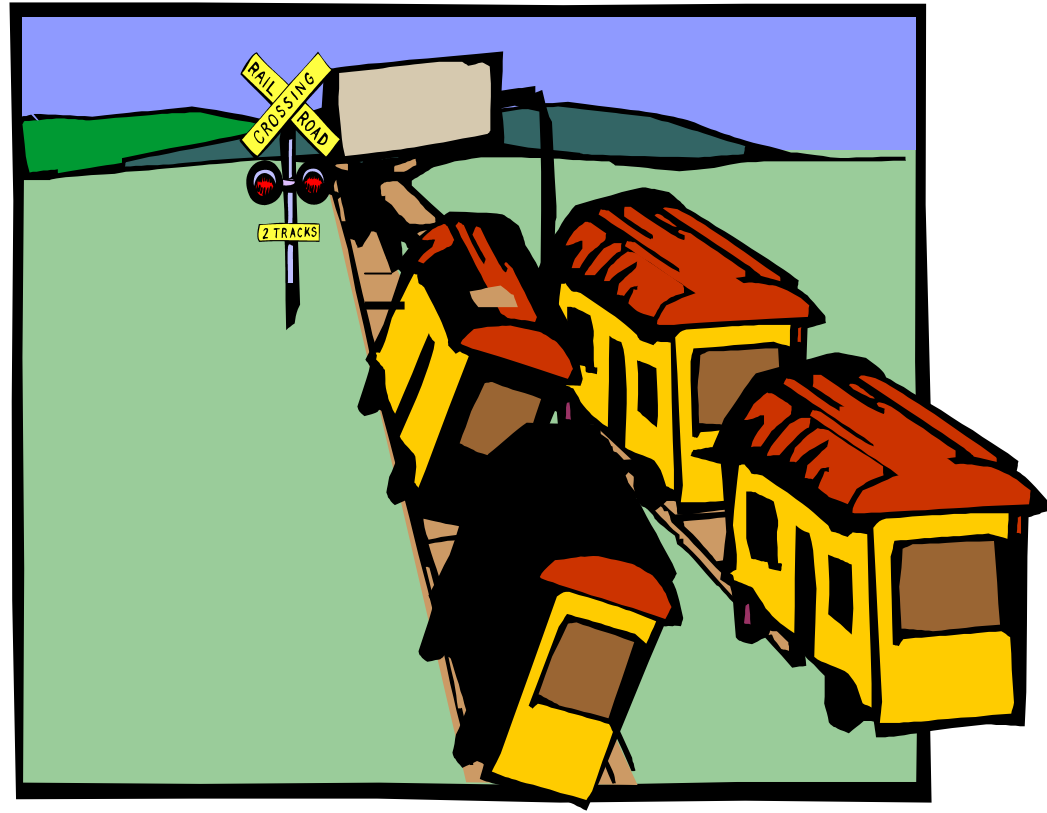
- *100,000s of consumers will experience service failures and delays*
- *The addition of wireless volumes will exacerbate existing landline problems and jeopardize service quality and network reliability*
- *Customers will experience a delay in service activations*
- *Incomplete implementation of the MIN/MDN separation will affect nationwide roaming and result in incorrect callback numbers, caller identification, and roamer and IXC billing*

# Avoid Risks To Network and Service

## Avoid Flash Cut to Pooling and Porting

### THE TRAIN WRECK

- Too many massive changes to the network and operational support systems
- Too many unresolved problems and issues
- Too many LSMS, LSOA, and NPAC failures
- Too many customers affected by service problems



# The FCC should repeal or forbear from WNP

- *WNP is not in the public interest and will harm a large number of consumers*
- *There is no competitive justification in the wireless market*
- *Limited resources should focus on real priorities with real public benefits*
- *Under Section 11, the FCC should repeal the mandate*
  - meaningful competition renders the rule unnecessary
- *Alternatively, the FCC should forbear under Section 10*
- *At a minimum, to avoid consumer harm and risks to network reliability and service quality, the FCC should forbear from WNP, and order a transition period between Pooling and Porting*